

Remarks

In the Office Action mailed September 9, 2003:

1. Claims 1, 3 and 51 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,198,749 (Hui);
2. Claims 4-25, 29-31, 33-37, 39-40 and 52-134 were allowed; and
3. Claims 41-45 and 47-50 were objected to.

I. Selected Claims

1. **Claims 1, 3, 41-45, 47-50, 51, 129-134**

Claims 1 and 51 have been amended to highlight the novel manner in which elements (e.g., bytes) of a communication are allotted to different communication channels. Some of the added subject matter was drawn from former claim 46, which had been objected to. Other claims depending from claim 1 have been amended accordingly.

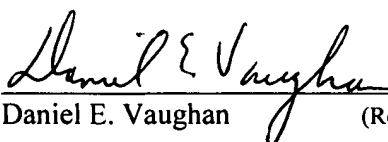
Hui does not appear to teach or suggest the allotment of individual elements of a communication across multiple communication channels.

CONCLUSION

No new matter has been added with the preceding amendments. It is submitted that the application is in suitable condition for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested. If prosecution of this application may be facilitated through a telephone interview, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's attorney identified below.

Respectfully submitted,

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